

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-10

ARA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01

PRS-01 OES-07 SS-15 USIA-06 /134 W

-----037301 090031Z /73

R 081748Z AUG 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0117

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 6743

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, CCD

SUBJ: CCD/WESTERN GROUP MEETING, AUGUST 8, 1977

1. SUMMARY: IN AUGUST 8 MEETING OF CCD WESTERN GROUP, US REP INFORMED ALLIES THAT SOVIETS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY CONTINUE TO PURSUE OVERALL TREATY ON NEW MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS (MDW), BUT PROBABLY WILL AGREE TO A SEPARATE RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS (RW) TREATY NOT SPECIFICALLY LINKED TO THE MDW QUESTION. US REP SAID THAT THE USG IS STUDYING THE COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO AN RW BAN, AS FAVORED BY THE SOVIETS, AND THAT THE US-SOVIET BILATERAL TALKS ARE CONTINUING. END SUMMARY

2. IN AUGUST 8 MEETING OF CCD WESTERN GROUP (CANADA, FRG, CONFIDENTIAL

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ITALY, JAPAN, NETHERLANDS, UK, US), US REP (FISHER) SAID THAT, IN ADDITION TO RW, SOVIETS HAVE CONTINUED TO CITE THESE EXAMPLES OF NEW MDW: ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES; INFRASOUND WAVES; PARTICLE BEAMS. THE SOVIETS, HE SAID, WILL PROBABLY SETTLE FOR A SEPARATE RW TREATY, WITHOUT AN ORGANIC LINK TO THE QUESTION OF NEW MDW, BUT THEY WILL UNDOUBTEDLY KEEP TALKING ABOUT NEW MDW ANYWAY.

3. ITALIAN REP (DI BERNARDO) SAID ITALIAN PLENARY STATEMENT ON MDW WILL BE GIVEN ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 9; IT WILL EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE 1948 DEFINITION OF MDW BY THE UN COMMISSION FOR CONVENTIONAL ARMAMENTS, AND WILL INDICATE SUPPORT FOR THE BRITISH PROPOSAL REGARDING A UNGA RESOLUTION ON MDW WHICH COULD BE ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS. NETHERLAND REP (VAN DER KLAUW) SAID HE HAD HEARD FROM AN EASTERN EUROPEAN SOURCE THAT THE SOVIETS WILL TABLE THE REVISED VERSION OF THEIR MDW DRAFT TREATY ON AUGUST 9.

4. ON RW, US REP SAID THAT US-SOVIET BILATERAL TALKS WILL CONTINUE THIS WEEK. THE SOVIET DEFINITION OF RW, THE US REP STATED, SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDES ANY RADIATION RESULTING FROM A NUCLEAR EXPLOSION -- DIRECT RADIATION, INDUCED RADIATION, OR FALLOUT; THUS THE SOVIET SIDE HAS NOT IN ANY WAY INCLUDED OR REFERRED TO ENHANCED RADIATION WEAPONS (THE NEUTRON BOMB) IN THE CONTEXT OF RW. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM THE NETHERLANDS DEL (MEERBURG), US REP SAID THAT THE USG IS STUDYING THE COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH (BAN ON DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, STOCKPILING, AND USE) TO AN RW BAN, AS ADVOCATED BY THE SOVIET SIDE, AND THAT HE HAS REQUESTED INSTRUCTIONS.

5. FRG REP (SCHLAICH) ASKED WHETHER THE US WOULD AGREE TO A FALL OR WINTER SESSION OF THE CCD SOLELY FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON AN RW BAN. US REP (FISHER) REPLIED HE DOUBTED IT BUT HAD CONFIDENTIAL

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NO INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS POINT. NETHERLANDS REP (VAN DER KLAUW) STRESSED THAT RW SHOULD BE DEALT WITH ON A LOW-PRIORITY BASIS, AND THAT IT WOULD BE HIGHLY UNDESIRABLE FOR CCD TO END UP AT NEXT MAY'S OPENING OF THE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT WITH SOMETHING ACHIEVED IN REGARD TO RW BUT NO SUBSTANTIVE PROGRESS ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS OR COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN.

6. NEXT WESTERN GROUP MEETING WILL OCCUR AS REGULARLY SCHEDULED, AT 11:00 A.M. ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10. SORENSON

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